

CLAIMS AS AMENDED (Marked Set)

1. (Twice Amended) A method comprising:

rendering a hypertext document including emitting program code for mapping input field names in the hypertext document to software component properties when the hypertext document is rendered, a [the] software component being a server-based component that uses data from the input field for processing;

providing the rendered hypertext document to a user;

receiving from the user input field data entered in a named input field;

determining from the mapping a software component property mapped to the named input field; and

calling the software component for processing the input field data, the mapping being done such that the software component can process the input field data regardless of the spelling of the name of the input field in the hypertext document.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein the rendering includes emitting hypertext form tags with a current value of an input field pre-filled in.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein the mapping includes encoding the hypertext input form with a unique name and registering the name.

4. The method of claim 3, wherein the receiving includes determining if the user submitted input field data is from a hypertext input form and bypassing input field processing if the determination cannot be made.

5. (Cancelled) [The method of claim 1, wherein the program code is source code of a compiled programming language.]

6. (Cancelled) [The method of claim 1, wherein the program code is source code of an interpreted programming language.]

7. (Cancelled) [The method of claim 1, wherein the program code is object code of a compiled programming language.]

8. (Cancelled) [The method of claim 1, wherein the program code is object code of an interpreted programming language.]

9. The method of claim 1, further comprising converting the submitted input field data to a correct data type.

10. The method of claim 1, wherein the determining includes iteratively processing input names associated with a component property to determine if data associated with any of the input names has been entered.

11. The method of claim 10, wherein the determining includes processing in order of priority stored with the mapping of the input field names.

12. A web server system comprising:

a preprocessor for generating program code to register mappings between hypertext input field names and software component properties and to emit hypertext form tags, the software component being a server-based component that uses data from the input field for processing;

a name-space manager for registering the mappings; and

a data handler, responsive to input data submitted by a user with an input field name, for using the mappings in the name-space manager to associate the input field names with the appropriate component properties, and for calling the software component to process the input data, the mapping allowing the software component to process the entered data regardless of the name of the input field in the hypertext document.

13. The system of claim 12, wherein the data handler converts the submitted input data to a correct data type.

14. The system of claim 12, wherein the name-space manager includes a table for mapping a form to input fields, and for mapping input fields to a component property.

15. The system of claim 12, wherein the name-space manager includes a table for mapping a form to input fields, and for mapping input fields to a priority that determines the order in which the data handler processes the input field mappings.

16. (Twice Amended) A method comprising processing a hypertext document by identifying and storing input field names before sending the document to a user, and in response to receiving input data with input field names from the user, determining appropriate software component methods for processing the input data by looking to the stored input field names, the input names for the input data being determined from the document **regardless of the naming of the input field within the hypertext document** [without requiring that the input names be correctly named].

17. The method of claim 16, wherein the storing includes storing a priority for each input name.

CLAIMS AS AMENDED (Clean Set)

1. A method comprising:
 - rendering a hypertext document including emitting program code for mapping input field names in the hypertext document to software component properties when the hypertext document is rendered, a software component being a server-based component that uses data from the input field for processing;
 - providing the rendered hypertext document to a user;
 - receiving from the user input field data entered in a named input field;
 - determining from the mapping a software component property mapped to the named input field; and
 - calling the software component for processing the input field data, the mapping being done such that the software component can process the input field data regardless of the spelling of the name of the input field in the hypertext document.
2. The method of claim 1, wherein the rendering includes emitting hypertext form tags with a current value of an input field pre-filled in.
3. The method of claim 1, wherein the mapping includes encoding the hypertext input form with a unique name and registering the name.
4. The method of claim 3, wherein the receiving includes determining if the user submitted input field data is from a hypertext input form and bypassing input field processing if the determination cannot be made.
9. The method of claim 1, further comprising converting the submitted input field data to a correct data type.
10. The method of claim 1, wherein the determining includes iteratively processing input names associated with a component property to determine if data associated with any of the input names has been entered.

11. The method of claim 10, wherein the determining includes processing in order of priority stored with the mapping of the input field names.

12. A web server system comprising:

- a preprocessor for generating program code to register mappings between hypertext input field names and software component properties and to emit hypertext form tags, the software component being a server-based component that uses data from the input field for processing;

- a name-space manager for registering the mappings; and

- a data handler, responsive to input data submitted by a user with an input field name, for using the mappings in the name-space manager to associate the input field names with the appropriate component properties, and for calling the software component to process the input data, the mapping allowing the software component to process the entered data regardless of the name of the input field in the hypertext document.

13. The system of claim 12, wherein the data handler converts the submitted input data to a correct data type.

14. The system of claim 12, wherein the name-space manager includes a table for mapping a form to input fields, and for mapping input fields to a component property.

15. The system of claim 12, wherein the name-space manager includes a table for mapping a form to input fields, and for mapping input fields to a priority that determines the order in which the data handler processes the input field mappings.

16. A method comprising processing a hypertext document by identifying and storing input field names before sending the document to a user, and in response to receiving input data with input field names from the user, determining appropriate software component methods for processing the input data by looking to the stored input field names, the input names for the input data being determined from the document regardless of the naming of the input within the hypertext document.

17. The method of claim 16, wherein the storing includes storing a priority for each input name.